lying closed a fairly large number of them were closed after the announcement of the new textile policy in June, 1985;

(b) if so, to what extent such large number of closures were as a result of that policy; and

(c) how Government would justify the success of the new textile policy vis-a-vis revival in demand, fall in prices, increase in employment, increase in per capita cloth consumption, etc.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The closure of textile mills is indicative of a structural transformation in the textile industry;

(c) During the last 3 years of the Policy, the textile industry as a whole has shown improvement in terms of production as well as exports. In terms of index number of wholesale prices, mill cotton cloth has shown only a marginal increase from May, 1985 to May, 1988 whereas nylon| terene and mixed cloth actually declined. The per capita consumption of textiles in the household sector which was 13.83 metres in 1984 was estimated at 17.16 metres in 1987. So far as employment is concerned, while the work force in the organised sector of the textile industry has come down it is estimated to have increased in the decentralised sector.

**Special entry permit system in North Eastern Region**

3405. DR. NAGEN SAIKIA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state the reasons for non-lifting of Special Entry Permit System clamped in North Eastern region?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): Various factors like priority to the International border, general law and order situation, sensitivity of the State and presence of insurgent elements etc. are the reasons for not lifting the Special Entry Permit System enforced in North Eastern region.

**Closure of Calico group of Mills**

3406. DR. G. VIJAYA MOHAN REDDY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Calico Group have unauthorisedly and without compensation and salaries to its workers have closed down Kalol Mill a reported in Loksatte of 11th October, 1987 and if so, what steps have been taken to safeguard interests of the workers;

(b) wetehhr Calico Gruop is financed by consortium of Central Government banks and has been making profits due to the subsidies paid by the Centre, direct and indirect; and

(c) whether Government propose to take over the assets of Calico Group Mills in order to suitably compensate the harassed labourers of their families?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) According to available information, the Kalol Ltd., Kalol of the Calico Group, closed down from 6-10-87 due to shortage of working capital leading to disconnection of power supply due to non-payment of electricity bills. The matter of right of the workers to receive their dues is pending in the Court.

(b) A short term rehabilitation package for "holding on operations" until August, 1988 had been agreed